

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 02004 111628Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
BIB-01 /053 W  
-----111840Z 009879 /43

P R 111320Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4080  
USIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 2004

MUNICH PASS VOA EUROPEAN BUREAU

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: SOPN PFOR CSCE UR US  
SUBJECT: TASS ATTACK ON VOA

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED.

1. TASS WIRE LATE EVENING FEBRUARY 10 CARRIED "POLITICAL ANALYSIS"  
BY VLADIMIR GONCHAROV WHICH CONTAINS STRONGEST AND MOST POINTED  
CRITICISM OF VOICE OF AMERICAN BROADCASTS IN RECENT MEMORY.

2. ATTACK CENTERS ON HEAVY VOA COVERAGE OF RECENT DISSIDENT  
ACTIVITIES IN EASTERN EUROPE. GONCHAROV SAYS THAT THE RADIO CENTER  
WHICH WAS NEVER DISTINGUISHED BY LACK OF BIAS AND EVEN LESS BY  
FRIENDLINESS TOWARDS THE SOVIET UNION AND THE WORLD OF SOCIALISM  
JOINED OTHER WESTERN RADIO STATIONS IN THE LAST FEW DAYS TO  
MOUNT A FIERCE CAMPAIGN THAT CANNOT BE DESCRIBED AS ANYTHING BUT  
HOSTILE. THE TASS PIECE CONTINUES BY ALLEGING THAT "HARDLY EVER  
IN THE PAST WAS THERE A CAMPAIGN AS INTENSIVE  
AS THIS. LISTENERS WHO HEARD THE VOICE OF AMERICA FEBRUARY 8

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 02004 111628Z

PROGRAM ON INTERNATIONAL SUBJECTS COULD NOT FAIL TO NOTICE THAT  
PRACTICALLY 100 PERCENT OF THIS ONE-HOUR PROGRAM CONSISTED OF  
ATTACKS ON THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. ALL  
OTHER INTERNATIONAL SUBJECTS WERE IGNORED."

3. GONCHAROV THEN SAYS THAT VOA BY USING STATEMENTS FROM  
"RENEGADES AND ANTI-SOVIETEERS ... GROSSLY INTERFERED IN THE

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF SOVIERIGN STATES WHICH IS KNOWN TO GO BASICALLY AGAINST THE HELSINKI DECISIONS." HE CITES AS EVIDENCE FACT THAT "CHARTER-77" WHICH HE DESCRIBES AS "SLANDEROUS PAMPHLET WRITTEN BY THE ENEMIES OF PEOPLES POWER" WAS REFERRED TO "SOME 200 TIMES" IN ONE WEEK OF RUSSIAN-LANGUAGE BROADCASTS BY VOA "AND OTHER WESTERN RADIO STATIONS."

4. GONCHAROV THEN SHIFTS GEARS TO CITE "NUMEROUS FACTS" ON "GENUINE VIOLATIONS" OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN WESTERN COUNTRIES WHICH WESTERN MEDIA SUPPOSEDLY IGNORE. AS AN EXAMPLE HE MENTIONS STRASBOURG CONDEMNATION OF BRITISH ACTIONS IN ULSTER. HE CONCLUDES HIS COMMENTARY BY SAYING THAT VOA "HAS EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OF GENUINE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND IT WILL CERTAINLY EARN THE GRATITUDE OF LISTENERS IF IT DOES THIS." END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. COMMENT: TASS AND BY DIRECT IMPLICATION THOSE WHO SET TASS POLICY CLEARLY UPSET OVER VERY THOROUGH WESTERN TREATMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN USSR, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, POLAND, ET AL. BY JUMPING ON VOA, HOWEVER, RATHER THAN USUAL BETES NOIRE RL AND RFE (NO OTHER STATION IS MENTIONED BY NAME IN PIECE) SOVIETS SEEM TO BE SAYING THEY PARTICULARLY IRKED BY EMPHASIS GIVEN THIS SUBJECT ON VOA RUSSIAN SERVICE. CARROT HELD OUT BY GONCHAROV IN HIS WIND-UP IS ESPECIALLY CUTE; PERSUMABLE VOA JUST WAITING FOR THIS PRODDING TO PURGE ITSELF AND EARN ETERNAL GRATITUDE OF ITS "LISTENERS" AT TASS HEADQUARTERS. TOON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MOSCOW02004  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770049-1149  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MOSCOW  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770250/aaaabsay.tel  
**Line Count:** 89  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** db beef5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3343436  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TASS ATTACK ON VOA BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED.  
**TAGS:** SOPN, PFOR, UR, US, CSCE, VOA, (GONCHAROV, VLADIMIR)  
**To:** STATE USIA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/db beef5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009